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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT  
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Date of Deposit: October 7, 2003

Applicant(s): H. HASHIMOTO et al

Serial No. : Not yet assigned

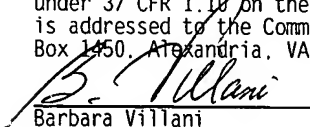
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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

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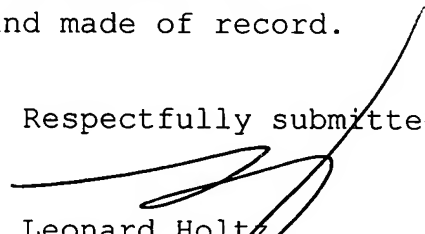
S I R :

Submitted herewith are copies of the publications identified on the attached Patent Office form PTO/SB/08A.

The publications are identified on pages 1-3 of the specification.

It is respectfully requested that the publications submitted herewith be considered and made of record.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>				Application Number		
				Filing Date		Herewith
				First Named Inventor		HASHIMOTO et al
				Group Art Unit		
				Examiner Name		
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number		03612/LH

### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam. Inits <sup>1</sup>	Cite No <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup>	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Relevant Portion

### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam Inits <sup>1</sup>	Cite No <sup>1</sup>	Offc <sup>3</sup>	Document Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup>	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Relevant Portion	T <sup>6</sup>
		JP	5-211320	A	HAMAZAKI	08-20-1993		X*
		JP	2000-165758	A	KIJIMA	06-16-2000		X*
		JP	2001-238138	A	TASHIRO ET AL	08-31-2001		X*
			*English abstract attached.					

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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<sup>1</sup> EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Place a check here if English translation is attached.

DATE MAILED: **October 7, 2003**